

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**(Attorney Docket № 15415US01)**

In the Application of:

Sherman (Xuemin) Chen

***Electronically Filed on August 11, 2008***

Serial No. 10/769,173

Filed: January 30, 2004

For: A SECURE KEY  
AUTHENTICATION AND  
LADDER SYSTEM

Examiner: Yogesh Paliwal

Group Art Unit: 2135

Confirmation No. 7811

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper responds to the Final Office Action mailed on May 9, 2008 ("Final Office Action") in the above-identified patent application, with a period of reply through August 11, 2008. The Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendments preliminary to continued examination in the instant application and consideration of the following remarks. The Applicant also respectfully requests continued examination in the instant application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 13 of this paper.